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December 11, 2002

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Bay State Gas Company, D.T.E. 02-73

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned proceeding on behalf of Bay State Gas Company ("Bay State" or the "Company") are a Motion for Protective Order concerning Bay State's response to information request Attorney General 1-8 as well as the Company's response to that request. Copies will be distributed to intervenors upon execution of Bay State's non-disclosure agreement.

Please date stamp a copy of this letter for our files.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Maribeth Ladd

Cc: Caroline O'Brien, Hearing Officer
James Keshian, Esq.
Wilner Borghella, Esq.
Charles Harak, Esq. (w/o Enc.)